

# The First Presbyterian Church

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*Pastors:*  
Dr. William G. McCoy  
Dr. James W. Roberts

*Ministers:*  
All members  
of the congregation

## The Celebration of Worship First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2011

8:45 and 11:00 AM

Worship is broadcast at 11 AM on WCHS-580AM

A warm welcome is extended to all who worship here today.  
Large print hymnals, Bibles and hearing devices, as well as information about child care  
and other church programs are available from any usher.

All children are welcome and encouraged to participate in worship.  
The asterisks (\*) invite you to stand if it is comfortable for you to do so.

### We Gather

#### TIME FOR PREPARATION

‘But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in clouds” with great power and glory. Then He will send out the angels, and gather His elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that He is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

‘But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.’

Mark 13:24-37

VOLUNTARY

O Come, O Come Emmanuel  
Fred Gaul, organist

arr. John Carter

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

We Praise God

CALL TO WORSHIP

Bill McCoy

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Betty and Ruffner Alexander (8:45)  
Damewood & Gaucher Families (11:00)  
Betty and Tom; Jamie, Elizabeth and Clarin

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 30

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

MARY'S CHILD

\*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Barbara Hopta

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Barbara Hopta

Lord, we confess that even when we know exactly what You would have us do,  
we often choose to do the opposite. Forgive us when our worry about what others might say,  
and other distractions, keep us from making decisions to serve.  
Help us find courage to try new ways of discipleship. We pray in Jesus' name.

Please continue to pray silently.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WELCOME AND CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP

Bill McCoy

Please sign the friendship pad placed at pew's end, so you may greet each other by name.  
Visitors are invited to wear the button found in the friendship pad.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Alternative Gifts

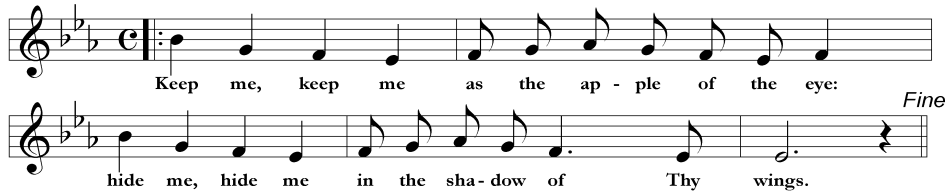
(Children may come forward for the baptism.)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00)

For Addison Paige Forbes, daughter of Lesli and Jesse Forbes, and Bailey Elizabeth Burton,  
daughter of Ashley and Brent Burton.

Leader: Keep me, keep me as the apple of the eye:  
Hide me, hide me in the shadow of Thy wings.

People:



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of the eye: *Fine*  
hide me, hide me in the sha - dow of Thy wings.

Leader: Keep me,

People:



Keep me,

Leader: Hide me;

People:



Hide me;

Welcome by congregation

Addie and Bailey, with joy and thanksgiving we welcome you into Christ's church.  
As we are all one in Christ, we promise to love, cherish and support you, to share  
the good news of the Gospel with you, and to help you to know and follow Christ.

\*PASSING THE PEACE

Barbara Hopta

The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

\*HYMN 555

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

We Declare our Faith

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Jim Roberts

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

HYMN 579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

We Give Thanks to God

OFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE

Offertory

Divinum Mysterium

arr. Wilbur Held

\*Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jim Roberts

Lord, keep us awake and watchful for opportunities to make a difference, to help others be alert for Your presence, to value life in all its fullness, and to learn to care. We dedicate these offerings we bring and all the days of our lives to those purposes, in Jesus' name. Amen.

The Word is Proclaimed

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:1-7, Pew Bible, OT, p. 638

Bill McCoy

SERMON

THE SCANDAL OF SPECIFICITY:  
Prophetic Scandal

Bill McCoy

PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

Come Just As You Are  
(See insert)

Joseph Sabolick

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

Salutation: The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Sursum Corda: Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them up to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.  
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Sanctus:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Hosts!  
 Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - - - ry.  
 Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord Most High.

Eucharistic Prayer and the Lord's Prayer Jim Roberts

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Distribution of the Elements (Gluten-free wafers are located in the center of each bread plate.)

Anthem for Communion Communion Prayer Allen Pote

*We place upon Your table, Lord, the food of life, the bread and wine,  
 As symbols of our daily work, according to Your grand design.  
 Within these simple things there lie the height and depth of human life:  
 Our pain and tears, our thoughts and toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.  
 Accept them Lord. They come from You. We take them humbly from Your hand.  
 These gifts of Yours for higher use, we offer up as You command.*

The Geneva Choir

\*CONCLUDING HYMN 23 Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

\*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BENEDICTION Bill McCoy

\*HYMN OF PARTING HYMN 540

*God be with you till we meet again. Loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
 with a shepherd's care enfold you. God be with you till we meet again.*

\*VOLUNTARY Morning Song Felix Mendelssohn  
Fred Gaul, organist

The asterisks (\*) invite you to stand if it is comfortable for you to do so.  
 Reminder: please return your hearing devices at the end of the service this morning.

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• *In worship leadership last Sunday:* We thank LOGOS participants James Odin and Lili Peterman for chiming the Trinity to begin our worship services last Sunday, November 20.

• *Restrooms and water fountains* are found through the double doors to the left of the chancel. Please accompany children.

• *Childcare:* Nursery and Rooms 113 and 114

• *Elder Visitation:* Jim McCain, Bryson McCain, Charlie Moredock

• *The Flowers in the Sanctuary* this Sunday remind us that Carolyn and Bill Mullett and family have given a contribution to the Hunger Fund for the glory of God and in loving memory of Rachel and Bob McCue.

• *Greeters today are:* Claude Churchwell, Jeanne Javins, Jill Johnson, Tom Morgan

PLEASE DROP THIS BULLETIN IN THE RECYCLING BOX AS YOU EXIT. THANK YOU!

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